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SOME DATA ON USSR CROPS AND HARVESTS, AS OF MAY 1951

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

USSR

As of 5 May 1951, 5.5 million more hectares of spring crops had been sown than by the same date in 1950.(1)

By 1 May, sowing of all spring crops had been completed in Stavropol' Kray, Azerbaydzhan SSR, Krasnodar Kray, Kabardino ASSR, and Izmail Oblast. By this date sowing of spring grains had been completed in Dagestan ASSR, Grodno Oblast, in the kolkhozes of Moldavian SSR, and in the southern oblasts of Ukrainian SSR. The plan for sowing of spring grains had been fulfilled by all oblasts and krays of the North Caucasus, Ukraine, Georgia, and Uzbekistan, and by Voronezh Oblast in the central chernozem belt. By 1 May Chkalov Oblast had sown 500,000 hectares more to spring grains than by the same date in 1950. Field work began much earlier this year in Siberia. The area sown in April 1951 was almost ten times larger than that sown in April 1950. The sowing of maize has been completed in Stavropol' Kray, Crimean Oblast, Azerbaydzhan SSR, and in the southern oblasts of Ukrainian SSR. Kolkhozes in the southern regions, as well as in Voronezh and Kursk oblasts, finished sowing sunflowers in April. As of 1 May, the plan for sowing sugar beets had almost been completed for the entire USSR.

The warm, humid weather facilitated the rapid growth of winter crops, and the sprouting of spring crops. In Azerbaydzhan SSR, and in the western oblasts of Ukrainian SSR winter wheat entered the tube stage in mid-April. Notice of the excellent condition of winter grains has been received from the Kuban and Ukraine.(2)

During the week 10 - 17 May, rain fell over wide areas of the USSR: in Transcaucasus, North Caucasus, Crimea, Chkalov Oblast, in the central sections of the country, in Belorussian SSR, Central Asia, Western Siberia, and in the Ukraine. This has greatly stimulated the growth of crops. Grains and grasses have sprouted quickly. In Kursk Oblast rye has headed, spring wheat and barley are bushing, sunflowers have developed the fourth leaf, and beets the second

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pair of leaves. The condition of winter and spring crops has been adjudged good to excellent for the country as a whole. Grains are developing well in the Ukraine. The heading of winter grains began there 10 days earlier than usual. In Izmail Oblast, rye has flowered. Winter grains are flowering in the Crimea and in Azerbaydzhan SSR. Rye is heading in the central chernozem belt. Spring grains have sprouted everywhere south of a line running through Minsk-Moscow-Gor'kiy-Molotov. In the Urals, the warm weather during the day-time has resulted in the early sprouting of spring wheat, peas, and other crops. The wholesale harvest of grasses has begun in the south -- in the republics of Central Asia, Transcaucasus, Crimea, North Caucasus, Astrakhan and Stalingrad oblasts, and in a number of Ukrainian oblasts. The harvest of grasses is proceeding rapidly in the Ukraine. The volume of hay cut to date is almost five times that cut at this time last year.(3)

Notices of completion of spring sowing were received from all parts of the country during the period 18 - 23 May. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Tambov Oblast have fulfilled the plan for sowing grain and fodder crops. Grain-sowing kolkhozes of Lithuanian SSR completed their sowing plan a week earlier than last year. Kolkhozes of Altay Kray sowed 34,000 hectares more wheat this year than last. The sowing of spring crops has been completed in Semipalatinsk Oblast. Spring field work is in full swing in the north of the country. The "white nights" have set in in Karelo-Finnish SSR, and sowing is proceeding at night. Harvesting has begun in Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast. Selective harvesting of barley has begun in Kazi-Magomedskiy, Kyurdamirskiy, Udzharskiy, and several other rayons of Azerbaydzhan SSR. Rye has attained meter height below Stalingrad, and has developed fine heads. Weather conditions have in general favored the growth of grains. In the larger part of the European USSR winter crops are in good to excellent condition. In the southern districts of Ukrainian SSR, Stavropol' Kray, and Rostov Oblast, rye is flowering, and in places has attained a height of 160 centimeters. In the south of Belorussia, and in the central chernozem belt, rye is heading. Winter wheat is flowering in the Kuban and Stavropol' Kray. Cotton is budding in the cotton areas of Azerbaydzhan SSR where early sowing took place. Reports received from Chernovitsy Oblast indicate the sugar beet crop is in excellent condition. Beets are also growing well in Kursk Oblast. Harvest of grasses is well under way in Rostov, Stalingrad, and Saratov oblasts, and has begun 10 days earlier than last year in Chkalov Oblast.(4)

Copious rains followed by warm weather have aided the development of winter and spring sowings and oleaginous crops in Leninabad Oblast. Winter grains have everywhere entered the flowering stage, and spring grains have entered the tube stage. Kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Khorol'skiy and Voroshilovskiy rayons of Primorskiy Kray are carrying on large-scale sowing of soybeans. The area under this crop has been increased, and it is now being sown on fallow, plow-land, and grassy turf. The kolkhoz workers of Keremovo Oblast, taking advantage of favorable weather, are finishing up their spring field work. In the oblast more than two thirds of the land allotted for spring crops has already been sown. The sowing of spring wheat has been completed. Spring crops are already sprouting in some areas. Large-scale planting of potatoes continues in the oblast.(5)

Armenian SSR

According to data of the Ministry of Agriculture Armenian SSR, as of 15 May the plan for sowing of spring crops had been fulfilled 90.3 percent. Of the area allotted for grains, 97.1 percent had been sown. The plan for sowing spring wheat had been completed 90.5 percent. Sowing of spring wheat was overly prolonged in the following rayons: Alverdskiy, Aparanskiy, Basargecharskiy, Gorisskiy, Gukasyanskiy, Kafanskiy, Krasnosel'skiy, Spitakskiy, and several others.

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The plan for supplemental fertilization of winter grains has been completed 81.1 percent, and that for harrowing of winter crops 94.3 percent. This work has been completed in the following rayons: Akhuryanskiy, Zangibasarskiy, Norbayazetskiy, Oktembryanskiy, and Sevanskiy.

The plan for sowing perennial grasses has been completed 91.6 percent; 13 rayons have completed this work. Kolkhozes of the following rayons are behind in this work: Echmiadzinskiy, Sisianskiy, Noyembryanskiy, Kirovskanskiy, Gukasyanskiy, Vedinskiy, and Azizbekovski.

The sowing of silage crops is far behind schedule. Only 59.7 percent of the planned area has been sown. Of the area allotted for fodder root crops, 55.2 percent has been sown.(6)

Azerbaydzhan SSR

During the Fourth Five-Year Plan, the area sown to wheat in Astrakhan-Bazarskiy Rayon increased 35 percent, and the area sown to cotton increased 66 percent.(7)

Belorussian SSR

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1951 spring sowing plan by oblasts:

<u>Oblast</u>	<u>30 Apr (8)</u>	<u>10 May (9)</u>	<u>15 May (10)</u>	<u>20 May (11)</u>	<u>25 May (12)</u>
Brest	50.3	61.2	64.8	71.6	77.2
Baranovichi	43.4	57.6	62.7	67.5	73.8
Polesa	43.3	53.5	58.2	64.9	71.1
Pinsk	43.2	55.4	59.0	62.7	71.0
Gomel'	42.1	54.9	61.1	69.7	76.3
Grodno	41.6	56.0	60.9	68.6	74.8
Bobruysk	34.9	50.7	56.0	63.3	70.3
Molodechno	26.0	49.7	60.4	71.1	79.6
Minsk	21.6	44.6	53.1	64.2	73.7
Polotsk	20.0	44.5	56.0	67.0	76.0
Mogilev	15.2	38.2	47.3	59.4	70.9
Vitebsk	11.7	33.1	42.3	56.1	67.4

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1951 plan for sowing spring grains by oblasts:

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<u>Oblast</u>	<u>30 Apr (8)</u>	<u>10 May (9)</u>	<u>15 May (10)</u>	<u>20 May (11)</u>
Brest	92.7	100.5	100.9	101.3
Baranovichi	70.9	82.2	86.2	88.8
Polesa	107.5	113.4	113.8	114.4
Pinsk	75.3	88.5	87.9 [sic]	88.7
Gomel'	98.6	102.5	103.6	104.5
Grodno	76.2	92.0	94.8	97.5
Bobruysk	72.7	96.8	100.1	101.9
Molodechno	36.0	72.7	79.9	86.7
Minsk	36.7	69.9	79.6	88.8
Polotsk	32.3	63.4	74.5	85.6
Mogilev	31.1	70.4	80.4	91.9
Vitebsk	18.8	47.4	58.0	73.1

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the 1951 plan for sowing flax by oblasts:

<u>Oblast</u>	<u>30 Apr (8)</u>	<u>10 May (9)</u>	<u>15 May (10)</u>	<u>20 May (11)</u>	<u>25 May (12)</u>
Brest	24.2	48.9	60.1	74.1	83.1
Baranovichl	28.5	53.1	59.9	68.1	77.4
Polesa	51.1	75.1	82.3	88.6	92.6
Finsk	40.3	63.9	70.2	73.8	79.9
Gomel'	32.3	69.7	78.2	84.2	88.0
Grodno	5.1	27.2	46.9	71.9	82.1
Bobruysk	21.5	46.6	54.2	65.4	75.5
Molodechno	6.2	27.1	50.0	70.0	84.4
Minsk	9.2	49.6	66.7	78.4	81.3
Polotsk	9.4	45.2	73.0	88.0	94.9
Mogilev	7.9	43.7	63.8	87.6	95.0
Vitebsk	7.2	36.1	52.0	75.8	89.2

Estonian SSR

The Ministry of State Farms Estonian SSR reports that as of 10 May sov-khozes of the republic had completed the spring sowing plan 46 percent, including grains 81 percent. There are 86 sovkhoses in Estonian SSR. (13)

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Spring sowing is proceeding in an unsatisfactory manner in many kolkhozes of the Koseskiy, Vyruskiy, Vil'yandiskiy, Valgaskiy, Pyl'tsamaskiy, Khiyumaskiy, Otepyaskiy, and other rayons. Party rayon committees and rayon executive committees of El'vaskiy, Ab'yaskiy, and Vastnelinaskiy rayons still have not taken appropriate action to remedy the defects in their leadership of spring field work indicated in a statement by the TsK KP(b) of Estonia. Sowing is still far behind schedule.

To this date many rayons have not only not begun sowing, but have not even completed preparation of the soil. In El'vaskiy Rayon, spring plowing is yet to be done on 5,000 hectares. The situation is no better in Tartuskiy, Otepyaskiy, Vyruskiy, and Vastselinaskiy rayons. Tractor parks and animal traction have been poorly utilized. The planting of vegetables has been poorly organized in many rayons.(14)

Kazakh SSR

Sovkhozes of Kazakh SSR completed the 1951 plan for sowing spring grains 10 days earlier than last year. They sowed 18,000 hectares more spring wheat this year than last. Much of it was durum.(15)

Kolkhozes of Karaganda Oblast completed the spring sowing plan 2 weeks earlier than last year. The plan for sowing spring wheat was fulfilled 106 percent, for perennial grasses 112 percent, and for silage crops 114 percent.(16)

Kirgiz SSR

At the end of 1950 there were 175 kolkhozes in the republic with an income of one million or more rubles. Every sixth kolkhoz in the republic was a millionaire kolkhoz. The average sown area per kolkhoz in the republic in 1950 (all crops) was almost 800 hectares.(17)

Lithuanian SSR

Cultivation of flax is concentrated in Shyanlyayskiy and Klaypedskiy oblasts. Soil and climate conditions are very favorable for flax here, and high yields are obtained. The proximity of the sea guarantees even rainfall and temperature plus high humidity. Flax must be sown within a short period to obtain maximum yields. In this area sowing should be completed by mid-May. In 1950, the Lithuanian SSR had completed only 8 percent of the flax sowing plan by 15 May.(18)

Kolkhozes of Panemunskiy Rayon, Kaunas Oblast, are lagging behind in the sowing of spring crops this year. The kolkhozes of the rayon must sow 1,300 hectares of spring wheat. As of 5 May they had sown only 279 hectares. The most favorable period for the sowing of this crop is now past. Sowing of industrial and fodder crops is also behind schedule. The plan calls for sowing 250 hectares of flax and 1,990 hectares of fodder grasses. As of 5 May, 41 hectares of flax and 141 hectares of fodder grasses had been sown.(19)

As of 10 May, 4,649 hectares of grain had been sown in Ukmergskiy Rayon. The plan calls for sowing 12,015 hectares of grain. As of 10 May, 18 hectares of flax had been sown in the rayon; the plan calls for 976 hectares.(20)

Moldavian SSR

In Moldavian SSR there are 1,645 kolkhozes. They include 97.1 percent of the peasant households in the republic. These kolkhozes are served by 108 MTS.(21)

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Pledged crop yields for Moldavian SSR in 1951 are as follows (in centners per hectare): wheat 20, maize 30, sunflowers 17, sugar beets 300, and cotton 6.(22)

RSFSR

All kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Altay Kray have completed the sowing of spring wheat.(23) Kolkhozes and sovkhoses of Chkalov Oblast completed the sowing of spring crops on 10 May. They sowed 95,000 hectares above plan. In 1951, 475,000 hectares more spring wheat were sown than in 1940. In 1951, sovkhoses of the oblast sowed 56,000 hectares more spring grains than in 1950. The sovkhoses sowed 44,000 hectares more spring wheat this year than in 1950.(24)

Tadzhik SSR

Cotton growers of Tadzhik SSR have pledged to spread 1.3 million tons of manure and other local fertilizers on the cotton fields of the republic in 1951.(25)

Ukrainian SSR

In 1950, the Ukrainian SSR grain-procurement plan was fulfilled ahead of time. The republic gave the state 81 million more puds of wheat than in 1949.(26)

According to data of the Ukrainian Hydrometeorological Service, weather conditions so far this year have been favorable for the sprouting and development of all crops. The May rains throughout the entire Ukrainian SSR were especially favorable for the development of crops. More than 20 millimeters of precipitation were recorded during the first 10 days of May in the northwest half of the republic, Sumy Oblast, the central rayons of Poltava and Kirovograd oblasts, and the northern rayons of Khar'kov Oblast. More than 40 millimeters of precipitation were recorded during the same period in Zakarpatskaya Oblast, the mountain rayons of the eastern Carpathians, and in a number of rayons in Kiev, Kamenets-Podolsk, Volyn, Rovno, and Ternopol' oblasts.

As a result of favorable weather conditions, the heading of winter crops in the Ukraine began 10 days earlier than usual. Winter rye is now heading throughout the entire republic, with the exception of the extreme northern rayons of Sumy and Chernigov oblasts. Rye has begun to flower in southern Izmail Oblast, and in places has reached the height of a man. Winter wheat has everywhere entered the tube stage, and is heading in several southern rayons. Spring grains have entered the tube stage in the extreme southern Ukraine and in Zakarpatskaya Oblast; they have completed the tube stage in the central and eastern oblasts. In Kiev, Vinnitsa, and Kamenets-Podolsk oblasts, kok-sagyz has begun to flower.(27)

Uzbek SSR

In 1950, the average yield of sugar-beet root in Uzbek SSR was 119.5 centners per hectare. This was 46 percent of plan.(28) In 1950, Uzbek SSR overfulfilled the planned deliveries of kenaf stalk and seed to the state.(29)

Cotton growers of Uzbek SSR have pledged to spread 6.5 million tons of manure and other local fertilizers on the cotton fields of the republic in 1951.(25)

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